



Economic Impact Analysis Virginia Department of Planning and Budget

22 VAC 40-720 – Child Protective Services Release of Information to Family Advocacy Representatives of the United States Armed Forces; Department of Social Services

February 4, 2002

The Department of Planning and Budget (DPB) has analyzed the economic impact of this proposed regulation in accordance with Section 9-6.14:7.1.G of the Administrative Process Act and Executive Order Number 25 (98). Section 9-6.14:7.1.G requires that such economic impact analyses include, but need not be limited to, the projected number of businesses or other entities to whom the regulation would apply, the identity of any localities and types of businesses or other entities particularly affected, the projected number of persons and employment positions to be affected, the projected costs to affected businesses or entities to implement or comply with the regulation, and the impact on the use and value of private property. The analysis presented below represents DPB's best estimate of these economic impacts.

Summary of the Proposed Regulation

This regulation provides local departments of social services with the authority to release information, when appropriate, to a representative of the Family Advocacy Program when the alleged abuser or neglector is a member (or the spouse of a member) of the United States Armed Forces. In these situations, coordination between child protective services and the Family Advocacy Program is intended to facilitate identification, treatment, and services to the military family.

The proposed change to this regulation is to update the definition of "founded," which has changed since the regulation was implemented in 1994. The definition of "founded" currently says that a review of the facts show *clear and convincing* evidence that child abuse or neglect has occurred. The updated definition will say *a preponderance of* evidence.

Estimated Economic Impact

Updating the definition of “founded” will make this regulation consistent with the standard of evidence for a founded complaint required in the Child Protective Services regulations (22 VAC 40-705). According to the Department of Social Service, this change is strictly technical and will not affect the criteria used to determine in which cases information is released to Family Advocacy Program representatives. Therefore, this proposed change is not expected to have any economic impact.

Businesses and Entities Affected

Since the proposed change will not affect the criteria used to determine in which cases information is released to Family Advocacy Program representatives, no businesses or entities are affected.

Localities Particularly Affected

No localities are particularly affected by the proposed change to this regulation.

Projected Impact on Employment

The proposed change is not anticipated to have a significant effect on employment.

Effects on the Use and Value of Private Property

The proposed change is not anticipated to have a significant effect on the use and value of private property.